

# The Hong Kong Daily Press

No. 8213

號三十一百二十八第 日三十二月三十日光

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, APRIL 18th, 1884.

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號八月四英港香

PRICE \$2<sup>50</sup> PER MONTH

## SHIPPING.

### ARRIVALS.

April 16, BANGALORE, British steamer, 1,399  
Hassal, Bombay, 30th March, General-  
P. & O. S. N. Co.

April 17, PEKING, British str., 354, Hetschuan,  
Canton, 16th April, General-SIMSEN  
& Co.

April 17, ATALANTA, German steamer, 757,  
Pfaff, Newhaven 9th April, Booms-  
SIMSEN & Co.

April 17, RUSSIA, Russian steamer, 1,313, Kozu,  
Odessa, General-CAPTAIN.

April 17, CATHEDRAL, British steamer, 1,700,  
Wm. Jack, Newhaven, N.S.W., 27th March,  
Coal-BORNO Co.

April 17, STINTON, British steamer, 1,304, Ed-  
wards, Shanghai 11th April, General-  
BUTTERFIELD & SWINE.

April 17, FOKEIN, British steamer, 509, Geo.  
Westoby, Tamsui 14th April, Amoy 15th,  
and Swatow 16th, General-Douglas  
LAPRAIK & Co.

April 17, GLICKSBURG, German steamer, Mis-  
sion, Swatow 16th April, General-BUN  
HIN CHAN.

April 17, ENTERPRISE, Am. corvette, 1,375,  
Comdr. Albert S. Baker, Shanghai 13th  
April.

### CLEARANCES.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE.

APRIL 17th.

Glucksburg, German steamer, for Singapore.  
Roslyn, British steamer, for Amoy.  
Triumph, German steamer, for Quangchow.  
Russia, Russian steamer, for Nagasaki.  
Stentor, British steamer, for Singapore.  
Trenton, German bark for Montreal (N.A.).  
M. D'Ischam, Ger. schooner, for Whampoa.  
Francisco Reyes, Span. steamer, for Manila.

### DEPARTURES.

April 17, HU-TUNG-HONG, Chinese gunkat, for  
Canton.

April 17, M. D'ISCHAM, German schooner, for  
Singapore.

April 17, PEMBROKESHIRE, British steamer, for  
Singapore.

April 17, GLENFALLOCH, British steamer, for  
Swatow.

April 17, NAMOA, British str., for Swatow.

April 17, RUSSIA, Russian str., for Nagasaki.

April 17, ROSELYN, British steamer, for Amoy.

### PASSENGERS.

#### ARRIVED.

Per Bangalore, str., from Bombay—Dr. and  
Mrs. Andersen, and Mr. Ellis, and 130 Chinese.  
Per Russia, str., from Odessa—8 Europeans.  
Per Cabin, and 750 steerage.

Per Folken, str., from Tamsui, Amoy, and  
Swatow—10 Chinese.

Per Stentor, str., from Shanghai—Messrs.  
Brennan, Burke, Hinde, Du Lestre, Mrs.  
Stewart, and four children, and 40 Chinese.

Per Glucksburg, str., from Swatow.—740  
Chinese.

#### DEPARTED.

Per Lanes, str., for Singapore.—Mr. F. F.  
Street.

Per Hafodong, str., for Amoy.—Mr. T. G.  
Gowland.

Per Tamsui—A. E. Hubbard.

#### REPORTS.

The British steamer *Stator* reports light  
N.E. winds and fine weather throughout.

The German steamer *Atalanta* reports had  
thick fog from Shantung to Barren Islands and  
off Turnau. Light N.E. wind throughout.

The British steamer *Bangalore* reports light  
wind and fine weather till within 300 miles of  
Hongkong with North-east monsoon. On the  
2nd instant spoke the *Narcissus*, from Greenwich,  
in lat. 8.50 N., and long. 77 E.

The British steamer *Bikini* reports having  
experienced moderate N.E. wind and clear  
weather throughout the passage. In Tamsui  
H.M.S. Fly. In Amoy—French men-of-war  
*La Galissonniere*, *Duguay-Trouin*, and *Tyrr-  
ephante*, and H.M.S. *Suffolk* and *Monckton*.  
In Swatow—Steamers *Tsiang*, *Kwangsang*,  
*Kien*, *Tienan*, and *Feling*.

#### AMOY SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVED.

Per Narco, British steamer from Foochow.  
10, Glucksburg, Ger. str., from Swatow.  
11, Folken, British str., from Hongkong.  
12, Vorsteiner, British steamer from Swatow.  
12, Elia, German bark from Tamsui.

13, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.  
13, Douglas, British str., from Hongkong.  
13, Kwangtung, British str., from Tamsui.  
13, Seow, British steamer, from Taihauou.  
13, Hing Fong, str., from Formosa.

14, Aster, str., with 100 Chinese from Shanghai.

14, D'Ischam, British str., for Formosa.

15, Ling Feng, Ger. steamer, for Formosa.

16, Names, British steamer from Foochow.

16, Glucksburg, Ger. str., from Swatow.

17, Folken, British str., from Hongkong.

17, Vorsteiner, British str., from Tamsui.

17, Elia, German bark from Tamsui.

18, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.

18, Douglas, British str., from Hongkong.

18, Hailong, British str., from Hongkong.

18, Hailong, British str., for Formosa.

18, Vorsteiner, British str., for Taiwan.

19, D'Ischam, British str., for Formosa.

20, Ling Feng, Ger. str., for Formosa.

20, Names, British steamer from Foochow.

20, Glucksburg, Ger. str., from Swatow.

21, Folken, British str., from Hongkong.

21, Vorsteiner, British str., from Tamsui.

21, Elia, German bark from Tamsui.

22, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.

22, Douglas, British str., from Hongkong.

22, Hailong, British str., from Hongkong.

22, Vorsteiner, British str., from Tamsui.

22, Elia, German bark from Tamsui.

23, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.

23, Folken, British str., from Hongkong.

23, Vorsteiner, British str., from Tamsui.

23, Elia, German bark from Tamsui.

24, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.

24, Folken, British str., from Hongkong.

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27, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.

27, Folken, British str., from Hongkong.

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28, Folken, British str., from Hongkong.

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41, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.

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41, Vorsteiner, British str., from Tamsui.

41, Elia, German bark from Tamsui.

42, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.

42, Folken, British str., from Hongkong.

42, Vorsteiner, British str., from Tamsui.



## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

THURSDAY, 17th April.

## INSURANCES.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY AT HAMBURG.

ON LONDON.—Bank Bills, on demand, 37/4; Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight, 37/2; Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight, 38/1; Credits, at 4 months' sight, 38/1; Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight, 38/4; Bank Bills, on demand, 43/7; Credits, at 4 months' sight, 46/7; ON BOMBAY.—Bank, 3 days' sight, 321; ON CALCUTTA.—Bank, 3 days' sight, 321; SHANGHAI.—Bank, sight, 724; Private, 30 days' sight, 734.

SHABES.—Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Shares—124 per cent. premium.

Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited—\$550 per share.

China Traders' Insurance Company's Shares—\$70 per share.

North China Insurance—The £1,000 per share.

Yangtze Insurance Association—The £14 per share.

China Insurance Company, Limited—\$195 per share.

On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—The £14 per share.

Canton Insurance Office, Limited—\$95 per share.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company's Shares—\$84 per share.

China Fire Insurance Company's Shares—\$65 per share.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company's Shares—66 per cent. premium, buyers.

Hongkong, Canton, and Manilla Steamboat Co.'s Shares—\$2 per share premium.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.'s Shares—20 per cent. discount.

China and Manilla Steamship Company, Limited—per share.

Hongkong Gas Company's Shares—\$34 per share.

Hongkong Hotel Company's Shares—\$150 per share.

China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—100 per cent. premium.

China Sugar Refining Company (Debenture)—nominal.

Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$92 per share.

Hongkong Ice Company's Shares—\$145 per share.

Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—\$100 per share.

Pakwa Tin Mining and Smelting Company—\$310 per share.

Salong Tin Mining Company—\$350 per share.

Pakwa Tin Sugar Cultivation Company—The £15 per share.

CHINESE IMPERIAL LOAN OF 1874—Nominal.

CHINESE IMPERIAL LOAN OF 1877—Nominal.

CHINESE IMPERIAL LOAN OF 1878—Nominal.

CHINESE IMPERIAL LOAN OF 1881—Par.

HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.

(From Meteor. YALONGER &amp; Co's Register.)

April 1st.

Temperature—9.5°. Dew-point, 39.18°.

Humidity—4.5%. Height, 30.64.

Barometer—9.4. Thermometer—30.08.

Humidity—4.5%. Height, 30.08.

Temperature—9.5°. Dew-point, 39.18°.

## TRACTS.

## A COMEDY POEM.

By OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

The Comet! It is on his way,

And singing as he flies;

The whirling planets shrink before

The sweep of the skies;

Ah! well may royal robes burn bright,

And satellites turn pale;

Ten million miles of head,

Ten billion lengths of tail!

On, on by whirling spheres of light,

Ho flashes and he flashes;

He turns not to the left or right;

He makes not their names;

One spark from his demoniac heel—

Away, away they fly;

Where darkness might be hoisted up

And said for "Tyrian dye."

And what would happen to the land,

And how would look the sea,

If in the bound'd devil's path?

Our earth should chance to be

Full hot and high the sea world boil,

Full 'twixt the forest gloom;

What though I saw and heard it all

In a豫ptic dream?

I saw a tiger take his tub;

The Comet's come to my,

I heard a scream—the gathered rays;

Had staved the tutor's eye;

I saw a fort—the soldiers all

Were armed with goggles green;

Pop cracked the guns! whiz flew the balls;

Bang went the magazine!

I saw a pool dip a scroll

Each moment in a tub,

I read upon the wringing back,

"The Dream of Beelzebub,"

He could not see his bones burn,

Although his brain was fried,

And over and over to beat

To wet them as they dried.

I saw the scalding pitch roll down

The crackling, sputtering pines,

And streams of smoke, like water-sprouts

burst through the rumbling mines;

I ask the reason why they made

Such noise about the town;

They answered not, but all the while

The braks went up and down.

I saw a roasting bullet sit

Upon a baking egg;

I saw a crittle seach his hand

Extricating his lag;

I saw nine geese upon the wing

Towards the frozen pole,

And every mother's go long fall

Crept to a crackling coal.

I saw the ox that brough the grass

Writhe in the blistering rays,

The herbage in his shrinking jaws

Was all a fiery blaze;

I saw huge fishes, belied to ruse,

Bob through the bubbling brine;

And thoughts of supper crossed my soul;

I had been rats at nime;

Strange sights! strange sounds! O fearful dream!

Its memory haunts me still;

The streaming sea, the crimson gales

That wreath each woodful hill;

Stranger! if through thy reeling brain

Such midnight vision swoop,

Spare I space. O spare this evening's moan.

And sweet shall be thy sleep!

## ROYAL AUTHORS.

At a time when Her Majesty has just

published another book, it may be interesting

to cast a glance at the literary achievements

of her predecessors on the two thrones of this island. The most distinguished in this respect, it is worth remembering, were

ancestors as well as predecessors of the Queen. Among these, of course, was Alfred, whom it has been said that the most important of his patriotic services consisted in what he did for the literature of his country and the intellectual improvement of his subjects. Mr. Stofford Brooke goes so far as to call him the father of English prose. Nor was Alfred, as popularly supposed, a mere translator. "He translated the popular manuals of the time into English; but he edited them with large additions of his own, needful, as he thought, for English use." It is difficult to turn from Alfred—especially to his successors for many a day. Henry Beaufort wrote nothing, but put out the eyes of a knight who had lampooned him; which proves to the satisfaction of a modern pantomist that the King had enough wit to appreciate entire. Richard I. "could make stanzas on the eyes of gentle ladies," and there seems no reason to dispute the authenticity of the poem ascribed to him in Walpole's "Royal and Noble Authors." It consists of about forty lines in Provencal, the subject being his captivity. There is a tradition that Edward II. learned to versify in prison; the lines attributed to him are of the saddest, but the rhythm is not unpleasing:—

Roger II. Estrange,  
Lying strumpet Roger.

It was enough to make a wit turn Jacobita.

Frederick, Prince of Wales, her present

Majesty's great-grandfather, could dash off a French song:—

L'Amour Mat a toute se glore:

L'Amour son a l'Amour;

Ou l'Amour son a l'Amour;

A son d'Amour folies a cour...

And so forth. It is quite possible that Pope and Voltaire may have praised the Prince's verses.—*St. James's Gazette.*

## EATING POISON IN COUET.

Forty years ago Colonel John Van Arnum, the famous criminal lawyer of Chicago, ate a poison biscuit before a Michigan jury,

and by that act secured the acquittal of a woman charged with attempting to murder her husband. From that time until now the story of the poisoned biscuit has been told throughout the Northwest many hundreds of times by lawyers and others, but it has seldom been told correctly. So far as known, the true version has never appeared in print. Since the incorrect story of the matter has received such wide circulation, a reliable narrative of the incident will doubtless prove readable to many.

Somewhere between the years of 1840 and

1845 the wife of a farmer of Hillsdale

county, Mich., baked some biscuits one

Sunday morning and then went to church,

leaving her husband to take dinner alone.

As he sat down to his meal, however, a young farm labourer came to the house and joined him at his repast. Each ate of the newly-baked biscuits, but quickly found that such men are few. There lay, however, an inconsistency which is a disease. Some men will never do anything which they have done before. It would be inconsistent with their past, and filled up with consistent acquisition, the whole outline of knowledge or of faith. So far, consistency is a virtue. How can it ever be a vice? Whenever any man resists the reasons which justify or demand a change, he is inconsistent with the primary law of truth. If, then, he has been consistent with his reason and conscience until now, he is inconsistent with his former self told. If he has not been consistent with these laws of our moral being in the past, they may be inconsistent all through, though appearances are against them, as they were from first principles and elementary truths, work out the whole science of secular or sacred truth, its unity, harmony, and falsehood. They have never changed, or been inconsistent with themselves, or with their past. They have been expanded with uniform growth, and filled up with consistent acquisition, the whole outline of knowledge or of faith. So far, consistency is a virtue. How can it ever be a vice? Whenever any man resists the reasons which justify or demand a change, he is inconsistent with the primary law of truth. If, then, he has been consistent with his reason and conscience until now, he is inconsistent with his former self told. 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